

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/775,953

Applicant(s)

FLANAGIN ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Esaw T Abraham

2133

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to ____.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1, 2, 4-6, 8-22, and 32-34 (renumbered as 1-23).
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 02 February 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: ____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date ____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date ____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other ____

Eugene J. Lamarre
Primary Examiner

DETAILED ACTION

1. The supplemental amendment filed on March 14, 2003 is accepted and entered.

Examiner's statement for reason for allowance

The following is an examiner's statement for allowance:

2. Claims **1, 2, 4-6, 8-22 and 32-34** have been allowed.

As per claim 1:

The prior art, Ulrich et al. (U.S. PN: 6,052,735) of record in figure 5 disclose or teach a mobile device (3) and desktop computer (4) used in synchronizing objects stored in object store (6) on mobile device and object store (8) on desktop computer and further the mobile device includes synchronization interface component (100), synchronization manager (102), remote application programming interface server (116), and electronic mail messaging transports (132, 134 and 136) and the desktop computer includes, synchronization interface component (108), synchronization manager (110) (see figure 5 and col. 8, lines 15-34). Ulrich et al. teach that the desktop computer and the mobile device contain personal information management systems, such as objects maintained by applications synchronized between the desktop computer and the mobile device (see col. 2, lines 60-65 and abstract). Further, Alam et al. (U.S. PN: 6,324,544) in figure 1 disclose a system comprising a mobile device (12) and desktop computer (14) including a synchronization manager on a mobile device interacts with synchronization providers (144 and 146) to determine whether any objects on object stores have been added, deleted, or changed since the last synchronization process (see col. 12, lines 48-67). **However, the prior arts taken singly or in combination fail to teach, anticipate, suggest, or render obvious a method for**

Art Unit: 2133

deleting an object from a store of the device without causing an inadvertent deletion of one or more corresponding objects from one or more stores of the one or more synchronization partners when synchronizing the device with the one or more synchronization partners, the method comprising: at a first act, while synchronizing the device with a first synchronization partner, using a filter that excludes an object so that it is not synchronized at the device, and thereby targeting that object for deletion at the device; as a next act, requesting that the targeted object be deleted from the device; thereafter, in response to the requested deletion of the targeted object, an act of determining whether other synchronization partners are synchronizing the targeted object; and as further acts, if it is determined that either the targeted object is not being synchronized with the any of the other synchronization partners, or that none of the other synchronization partners object to the requested deletion, then proceeding with deletion of the targeted object from the device, but otherwise, not deleting the targeted object from the device even though it is no longer synchronized with the first synchronization partner, thereby preventing any inadvertent deletion from other synchronization partners. Consequently, claim 1 is allowed over the prior art.

Claims **2, 4-6, 8 and 9** which are directly or indirectly dependent/s of claim 1 are also allowable over the prior art of record.

As per claim 10:

The prior art, Ulrich et al. (U.S. PN: 6,052,735) of record in figure 5 disclose or teach a mobile device (3) and desktop computer (4) used in synchronizing objects stored in object store (6) on mobile device and object store (8) on desktop computer and further the mobile device includes synchronization interface component (100), synchronization manager (102), remote

Art Unit: 2133

application programming interface server (116), and electronic mail messaging transports (132, 134 and 136) and the desktop computer includes, synchronization interface component (108), synchronization manager (110) (see figure 5 and col. 8, lines 15-34). Ulrich et al. teach that the desktop computer and the mobile device contain personal information management systems, such as objects maintained by applications synchronized between the desktop computer and the mobile device (see col. 2, lines 60-65 and abstract). Further, Alam et al. (U.S. PN: 6,324,544) in figure 1 disclose a system comprising a mobile device (12) and desktop computer (14) including a synchronization manager on a mobile device interacts with synchronization providers (144 and 146) to determine whether any objects on object stores have been added, deleted, or changed since the last synchronization process (see col. 12, lines 48-67). **However, the prior arts taken singly or in combination fail to teach, anticipate, suggest, or render obvious** a method for deleting an object from the store of the device without causing an inadvertent deletion of more corresponding objects from the one or more stores of the one or more synchronization partners when the device the one or more synchronization partners, the method comprising the following acts: while synchronizing the device store with. A first synchronization partner, using a filter that excludes an object so that it is not synchronized at the device, and thereby targeting that object for deletion at the device store; sending a sofa delete request for the targeted object from a first sync module at the device to a sync manager of the device, wherein the first device sync module is associated with the first synchronization partner; thereafter, in response to the soft delete request for the targeted object, the sync manager determining whether ally other synchronization partner is synchronizing the targeted object; and deleting the targeted object from the device

Art Unit: 2133

store only if no other synchronization partner is synchronizing the object. Consequently, claim 10 is allowed over the prior art.

Claims 11-17, which are directly or indirectly dependent/s of claim 10 are also allowable over the prior art of record.

As per claim 18:

The prior art, Ulrich et al. (U.S. PN: 6,052,735) of record in figure 5 disclose or teach a mobile device (3) and desktop computer (4) used in synchronizing objects stored in object store (6) on mobile device and object store (8) on desktop computer and further the mobile device includes synchronization interface component (100), synchronization manager (102), remote application programming interface server (116), and electronic mail messaging transports (132, 134 and 136) and the desktop computer includes, synchronization interface component (108), synchronization manager (110) (see figure 5 and col. 8, lines 15-34). Ulrich et al. teach that the desktop computer and the mobile device contain personal information management systems, such as objects maintained by applications synchronized between the desktop computer and the mobile device (see col. 2, lines 60-65 and abstract). Further, Alam et al. (U.S. PN: 6,324,544) in figure 1 disclose a system comprising a mobile device (12) and desktop computer (14) including a synchronization manager on a mobile device interacts with synchronization providers (144 and 146) to determine whether any objects on object stores have been added, deleted, or changed since the last synchronization process (see col. 12, lines 48-67). **However, the prior arts taken singly or in combination fail to teach, anticipate, suggest, or render obvious** a method for automatically deleting a data object from the store of the device without causing an inadvertent deletion of one or more corresponding data objects from the one or more stores of one or more

Art Unit: 2133

synchronization partners during, a subsequent synchronization the method comprising steps for: as a result of synchronizing the device store with a store of a first synchronization partner, generating a soft delete request for a targeted data object at the device store; querying all other synchronization partners of the device to determine if the targeted data object is synchronized by any of the other synchronization partners; granting the soft delete request only if no other synchronization partner is synchronizing the targeted data object, and no other synchronization partner denies permission for the soft delete request, and otherwise, denying the soft delete request. Consequently, claim 18 is allowed over the prior art.

Claims 19-22, which are directly or indirectly dependent/s of claim 18 are also allowable over the prior art of record.

As per claim 32:

The prior art, Ulrich et al. (U.S. PN: 6,052,735) of record in figure 5 disclose or teach a mobile device (3) and desktop computer (4) used in synchronizing objects stored in object store (6) on mobile device and object store (8) on desktop computer and further the mobile device includes synchronization interface component (100), synchronization manager (102), remote application programming interface server (116), and electronic mail messaging transports (132, 134 and 136) and the desktop computer includes, synchronization interface component (108), synchronization manager (110) (see figure 5 and col. 8, lines 15-34). Ulrich et al. teach that the desktop computer and the mobile device contain personal information management systems, such as objects maintained by applications synchronized between the desktop computer and the mobile device (see col. 2, lines 60-65 and abstract). Further, Alam et al. (U.S. PN: 6,324,544) in figure 1 disclose a system comprising a mobile device (12) and desktop computer (14) including

Art Unit: 2133

a synchronization manager on a mobile device interacts with synchronization providers (144 and 146) to determine whether any objects on object stores have been added, deleted, or changed since the last synchronization process (see col. 12, lines 48-67). **However**, the prior art taken **singly or in combination fail to teach, anticipate, suggest, or render obvious** in a system including a device that synchronizes with one or more synchronization partners, a computer program product comprised of a computer-readable medium, for storing computer-executable instructions for implementing a method for deleting the-in object from a store of the device without causing an inadvertent deletion of one or more corresponding objects from one or more stores of the one or more synchronization partners when synchronizing the device with the one or more synchronization partners, and wherein the method is comprised of: as a first act, while synchronizing the device with a first synchronization partner, using a filter that excludes an object so that it is not synchronized at the device, and thereby targeting that object for deletion at the device; as a next act, requesting that the targeted object be deleted from the device; thereafter, in response to the requested deletion or the targeted object, an act of determining whether other synchronization partners are synchronizing the targeted object; and as further acts, if it is determined that either the targeted object is not being synchronized with the any of the other synchronization partners, or that none of the other synchronization partners object to the requested deletion then proceeding with deletion of the targeted object from the device, but otherwise, not deleting the targeted object from the device even though it is no longer synchronized with the fast synchronization partner, thereby preventing any inadvertent deletion from other synchronization partners. Consequently, claim 32 is allowed over the prior art.

As per claim 33:

Art Unit: 2133

The prior art, Ulrich et al. (U.S. PN: 6,052,735) of record in figure 5 disclose or teach a mobile device (3) and desktop computer (4) used in synchronizing objects stored in object store (6) on mobile device and object store (8) on desktop computer and further the mobile device includes synchronization interface component (100), synchronization manager (102), remote application programming interface server (116), and electronic mail messaging transports (132, 134 and 136) and the desktop computer includes, synchronization interface component (108), synchronization manager (110) (see figure 5 and col. 8, lines 15-34). Ulrich et al. teach that the desktop computer and the mobile device contain personal information management systems, such as objects maintained by applications synchronized between the desktop computer and the mobile device (see col. 2, lines 60-65 and abstract). Further, Alam et al. (U.S. PN: 6,324,544) in figure 1 disclose a system comprising a mobile device (12) and desktop computer (14) including a synchronization manager on a mobile device interacts with synchronization providers (144 and 146) to determine whether any objects on object stores have been added, deleted, or changed since the last synchronization process (see col. 12, lines 48-67). **However, the prior art taken singly or in combination fail to teach, anticipate, suggest, or render obvious** a system including a device having a store, wherein the store is synchronized with one or more stores of one or more synchronization partners, with the one or; a computer program product comprised of a computer-readable medium for storing computer-executable instructions for implementing a method for deleting an object from the store of the device without causing an inadvertent deletion of one or more corresponding objects from the one or more stores of the one or more synchronization partners when the devices with the one or more synchronization partners, and wherein the method is comprised of the following acts: while synchronizing the device store with

Art Unit: 2133

a first synchronization partner, using a filter that excludes an object so that it is not synchronized at the device, and thereby targeting that object for deletion at the device store; sending a soft delete request for the targeted object from a first sync module at the device to a sync manager of the device, wherein the first device sync module is associated with the first synchronization partner; thereafter, in response to the soft delete request for the targeted object, the sync manager determining whether any other synchronization partner is synchronizing the targeted object; and deleting the targeted object from the device store only if no other synchronization partner is synchronizing the object. Consequently, claim 33 is allowed over the prior art.

As per claim 34:

The prior art, Ulrich et al. (U.S. PN: 6,052,735) of record in figure 5 disclose or teach a mobile device (3) and desktop computer (4) used in synchronizing objects stored in object store (6) on mobile device and object store (8) on desktop computer and further the mobile device includes synchronization interface component (100), synchronization manager (102), remote application programming interface server (116), and electronic mail messaging transports (132, 134 and 136) and the desktop computer includes, synchronization interface component (108), synchronization manager (110) (see figure 5 and col. 8, lines 15-34). Ulrich et al. teach that the desktop computer and the mobile device contain personal information management systems, such as objects maintained by applications synchronized between the desktop computer and the mobile device (see col. 2, lines 60-65 and abstract). Further, Alam et al. (U.S. PN: 6,324,544) in figure 1 disclose a system comprising a mobile device (12) and desktop computer (14) including a synchronization manager on a mobile device interacts with synchronization providers (144 and 146) to determine whether any objects on object stores have been added, deleted, or changed

Art Unit: 2133

since the last synchronization process (see col. 12, lines 48-67). **However**, the prior art taken **singly or in combination fail to teach, anticipate, suggest, or render obvious** a system including a device having a device store, wherein the device store is synchronized with one or more stores of one or more synchronization partners, a computer product comprising one or more computer-readable media having computer-executable instructions that implement a method automatically deleting a data object from the store of the device without causing an inadvertent deletion of one or more corresponding data objects from the one or more stores of one or more synchronization partners during a subsequent synchronization, the method comprising steps for: as a result of synchronizing the device store with a store of a first synchronization partner, generating a soft delete request for a targeted data object at the device store; querying all other synchronization partners of the device to determine if the targeted data object is synchronized by any of the other synchronization partners; granting the soft delete request only if no other synchronization partner is synchronizing the targeted data object, and, no other synchronization partner denies permission for the soft delete request, and otherwise, denying the soft delete request. Consequently, claim 34 is allowed over the prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Art Unit: 2133

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communication from the examiner should be directed to Esaw Abraham whose telephone number is (571) 272-3812. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are successful, the examiner's supervisor, Albert DeCady can be reached on (571) 272-3819. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 746-7239 for regular communications and (703) 746-7238 for after final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Esaw Abraham

Esaw Abraham

Art unit: 2133

Eugene J. Lammie
Primary Examiner